



# LAB LEDGER

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# Happy Show everybody!

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# President's letter

The 2014 - 2015 officers and Board thank you for your support and confidence. We are looking forward to serving you in this new club year. As we take office, the show has come together and is now just two weeks away. Thanks for your generous support of time talent and money we look forward to another excellent show and raffle with outstanding hospitality. We will still need help during the day and with set up and take down, so If you are coming and can help in any way for any amount of time it will be greatly appreciated. We have all worked very hard to make the show one that exhibitors want to come back to year after year and you all should be proud and glad to know that you have done that. Thanks to all of you.

**Barry Staples** 



# MONTHLY CLUB MEETING

### NOVEMBER MEETING IS CANCELED BECAUSE OF OUR SPECIALTY SHOW.

Location: Cracker Barrel restaurant at Jimmy Carter Boulevard (exit 99) off I-85.

Directions: Going North on I-85 it is to the right and coming south you turn left cross over 85 and it is on the right.

Address: 6175 McDonough Dr, Norcross, GA (770) 446-1313



The regular monthly meeting of the Club will be held on the third Tuesday of each month. Board members will commence their meeting at 7:00 p.m. and membership will meet immediately following at 7:30 p.m. As always members are invited to the Board meeting.

We hope to see you there!



# **MEMBERSHIP**

# Remember to support our club by

#### **Membership Dues Reminder**

Our membership dues for 2015 will be due starting 11/1/14.

Please completely fill out this form and return it with your check so that we can keep our records up to date.

130 Hickory Pointe Dr.

Athens, Ga. 30605

# Member's breeder directory

To be included in the breeder's directory of the club's website, please e-mail the following information to our Website master: <u>Jean McLain</u>

Kennel name, Contact person, Website URL address, e-mail address, phone number and a brief description of your practices. You may include any updated information about current litters.



# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Shannon and I are doing the Specialty Raffle in November again this year. Thanks to all of you and many generous friends and companies we had a wonderful response and it is our goal to beat that this year! So please start looking around at stores, shows and even attics and basements for items to donate. Nothing is too small - the \$1.00 table was a huge hit!!! So let's get started early and start collecting!!!!! You can call Shannon or me with any questions.



Thanks so much in advance!!!!!!

Dale



# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# 2015 elected Officers & Board Members

# Officers:

President: Barry Staples

Vice President: Shannon Carlton

Corresponding Secretary: Linda Jordan

Recording Secretary: Sylvia Gay

Treasurer: Jodi Martin

**Board Members:** 

Julia Kuni

Jim Griffin

Carol Quaif

**Neil Martin** 



# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### PROPOSED JUDGING APPROVAL PROCESS - 2014

**AKC Board of Directors** 

**OVERVIEW** 

The proposed Judges Approval Process was designed in response to feedback from exhibitors, clubs, and judges. In developing the proposal there were three objectives in addition to the one overriding principle of providing knowledgeable, credibly trained and prepared judging for the exhibitor at AKC conformation events:

- Provide exhibitors more choices of judges at all levels of competition.
   Currently 27% of the judges adjudicate 80% of the entries.
- Provide clubs access to more judges at all levels of competition in order to be able to offer exhibitors a diversity of opinions while maintaining reasonable entry fees.
- Provide current and aspiring judges a clear path to breed and group status based on educational experiences believed to develop the skills necessary to evaluate dogs presented to them.

The process is based on the following concepts:

- The goal of this process is it be simple and well defined so that judges will know what is expected of them in order to be approved to judge both their first and additional breeds. It is based on what AKC Parent Clubs believe to be important preparation to judge their breed.
- The process uses a combination of mandatory as well as optional educational components. Each optional component activity is assigned a point value based upon its perceived relative importance to the preparation process. The points are referred to as Component Educational Units (CEU). The



prospective judge can chose which educational components to utilize as he or she prepares to judge a particular breed. The number of CEUs per breed that a prospective judge must present for breed approval is contained on the Judge Education Component Requirements Chart. Once those requirements are met the prospective judge can apply for approval to judge the breed.

• The total number of CEU's per breed, per application required of an applicant varies depending upon the experience (group approvals) of the applicant. The proposed process recognizes that a judge just beginning his or her career requires more experience and training before applying for additional breeds than does a judge already approved for multiple groups. Thus, a multi-group judge can apply for additional breeds with fewer CEU's than a judge finishing his or her first group.

#### **Executive Field Representatives:**

- The Executive Field Representative is an important part of AKCs presence at shows and in the communities we serve. In recognition of the experience and expertise of the Executive Field Representative, in addition to their ongoing responsibilities under the policy with the judging community, they will work with parent clubs in their efforts to develop and provide educational training about their breed as well as provide training in the use of scales, wicket, ramp, table and other breed related matters. They will serve as a valuable resource to Clubs and assist, as requested, in the management of their shows and special programs. They will serve as the "face" of the American Kennel Club with the public and the fancy.
- The Executive Field Representative is relied upon to help train and educate judges in proper ring procedure, demeanor, and rule/policy interpretation as well as implementation of safe, courteous and efficient handling of the ring and all participants. They will observe the newly approved judge in the ring with respect to those aspects of judging.



- Executive Field Representatives will no longer observe, comment upon, critique or evaluate placements of dogs or question a judge's awards. A judge may ask an Executive Field Representative for feedback or coaching but any such request will not become part of the judge's record but rather part of the education process to become a better judge. Such interaction is encouraged for those breed(s) in which the Executive Field Representative has in-depth personal knowledge.
- First time judge applicants are interviewed by Executive Field Representatives to assure that the aspiring judge is fully conversant with appropriate ring procedures, AKC, rules, guidelines and policies and the behavior and demeanor expected of an AKC judge.

**Process Requirements:** 

- A breed standard test is required with all applications for a breed regardless of the number Groups an applicant is approved to judge.
- Once an applicant has satisfied the requirements of the Qualifying Components (mandatory and educational components) application is made to AKC requesting granting of the breed on a "Permit" basis. After completion of six assignments Regular status for that breed is granted.
- There is no Judges Review Committee.
- Low Entry Breeds are subject to the same overall requirements as all other breeds. The Judge Education Component Requirements Chart identifies the number of Qualifying Components required of a judge based upon the applicant's experience and based upon the identification of a breed as a low entry or regular entry breed. Low entry breeds require fewer CEUs since fewer educational opportunities for low entry breeds are available.
- An application for an additional breed may be submitted, regardless of Permit status of other breeds, when a prospective judge has completed the necessary CEUs for the breed for which the application is made.



• The Appeals Committee of the Board of Directors is available to adjudicate applicant appeals should a dispute arise between a judge and the Judging Operations Department in implementing and interpreting the Policy. Such appeals are subject to a filing fee of \$50. In order to gain a better understanding of the proposed process a "FAQ Question and Answer" paper has been prepared. Please refer to it in addition to the Judging Approval Policy and the Judge Education Component Requirements Chart which combined constitute the entire Board of Director's Policy.



# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# Proposed Judging Approval Process - 2014— FAQ's

**AKC Board of Directors** 

Q: Why is the Board considering changing the judging Approval Policy yet again?

A: The Board is concerned with a number of factors arising from the Judging Approval Policy now in use.

- Clubs are finding it harder and harder to staff All-Breed shows with the requisite Group judges due to limited numbers of Group approved, and especially multi-group approved judges.
- Exhibitors are complaining of having few choices over time of the judges that are offered on show panels. They say they are tired of seeing the same faces judging month after month at their local shows. A small percentage of judges judge a huge percentage of the All-Breed entries.
- Judges are discouraged by the Executive Field Representative observations of their placements. Many highly qualified individuals are choosing not to judge or are choosing not to seek to judge additional breeds due to the uncertainty and subjective nature of the current policy.
- Q: How will the new system differ from the current system concerning preparation to apply to judge new breeds?
- A: Many judges found the prior system of completion of recognized acceptable educational components (check-the-boxes) to be much clearer and more certain than the current system of simply describing the preparatory work accomplished. The new system will return to the component completion system. The intent is to provide more definite prerequisites necessary to the approval to judge a breed. Thus, specific Qualifying Educational Components are presented, along with the number of points (CEU) to be earned for each component. (The Parent Clubs were surveyed to determine



what THEY felt were the best ways for a prospective judge of their breed to become educated in the breed. The Components and the weight to be given each arise from that survey.) When a prospective judge has earned enough CEU points per breed (by completing Qualifying Components) he or she may apply for that breed, and save for exceptional circumstances, can expect approval for that breed. Q: How many CEU's are required for each new breed application.

A: It depends upon how experienced the aspiring judge is, based upon his or her group approvals. The Component Matrix presents the number of CEU's necessary for a prospective judge to complete for each new breed approval. A judge with six or seven groups needs fewer CEU's per breed than a judge still in his or her first or second group. Q: How will each additional breed application be reviewed and approved? Will a Committee decide which breeds to approve?

A: The only Committee involved in the proposed process will be the Board of Directors Appeals Committee, and then only if the Judging Operations Staff and the Applicant cannot agree on a particular portion of an application. Additional breed applications will be processed by the Department to determine compliance with the mandatory and optional Component requirements. Once determined to be complete, the application will be published in the Gazette and thereafter approved unless the Department files an objection with the Board Appeals Committee (after full notice to and an opportunity to respond by, the applicant). There is no Judges Review Committee.

Q: What is the role of the Executive Field Representative? Will they observe judging procedure of newer judges?

A: The Executive Field Representative is a valuable resource for the beginning and continuing judge. The Executive Field Representative will participate in the training and evaluation of judges at the beginning of their careers, to assure that the judge is fully conversant with the Rules, Guidelines and Policies governing judging. Executive Field Representatives will observe the newer judge to assure that he or she can properly handle the ring, and all who enter it. Proper procedure, compliance with the rules and courtesy



to all are necessities when judging, and the Executive Field Representative will help train and assure that judges are proficient.

In recognition of the experience and expertise of the Executive Field Representative, in addition to their ongoing responsibilities under the policy with the judging community, they will work with parent clubs in their efforts to develop and provide educational training about their breed as well as provide training in the use of scales, wicket, ramp, table and other breed judging related matters. They will serve as a valuable resource to Clubs and assist, as requested, in the management of their shows and special programs. They will serve as the "face" of the American Kennel Club with the public and the fancy. Q: What about Placement Evaluations by Executive Field Representatives?

A: The Executive Field Representative will NOT observe judging for the purpose of commenting upon, evaluating or critiquing a judge's selection of awards or placements. There will be no observation reports grading a judge's performance on the merits of awards.

Q: Will interviews with Executive Field Representatives still be required?

A: An Executive Field Representative will interview each judge seeking approval to judge for the first time. The purpose of the interview is to train and assure the judge is comfortable in the proper procedures of judging and in the implementation of the appropriate Rules, Guidelines and Policies governing judging. Interviews for additional breed applicants will not be required.

Q: Is the process under this newly proposed Policy "easier" than in the past for a judge to obtain additional breed approvals?

A: The Board does not consider the process easier. Rather, relevant educational experiences continue to be the foundation of approval to judge. The Board believes that a well-educated judge who has taken advantage of various learning experiences and tools to become conversant with the intricacies of each breed is prepared to judge that breed. Permit status will continue for the first six assignments, so that Exhibitors will be aware that the judge is just beginning to judge that breed.



The process, while not "easier" is different. Fulfillment of objective standards of preparation is the key to this new system. The uncertainty of subjective decisions of third parties – Judges Review Committees or Executive Field Representatives – is removed.

Rather, educational preparation completed is the road to breed approvals.Q: Will the Clubs and Exhibitors know what I have done to prepare myself to judge a

new breed?

A: The Board anticipates publishing for each applicant a list of the educational components, which form the basis of the application for each additional breed. Should a judge, after approval for a breed, participate in additional educational components for that breed, the newly obtained educational component will be added to the judge's published resume.

Q: What about Low Entry Breeds?

A: Low Entry Breeds continue to be defined as a breed with less than 3500 entries in AKC shows in the previous year. Exhibitors of Low Entry Breeds do not want to be treated as second-class citizens. They want their judges educated and qualified along with all other breed judges. There are, however, realistically, simply because of the relative scarcity of such breeds, fewer educational experiences offered and available for the judging community to attend. Thus, all judges seeking approval for a low entry breed must complete CEU's in that breed, just as in all other breeds. Due to the availability of fewer Qualifying Components, the number of CEU's for low entry breeds is reduced.

Q: Are Breed Standard Tests required?

A: Yes. A Breed Standard test answer sheet must accompany each application for a breed. The criteria for passing the test remain the same as in the past.

Q: Are there any fee increases?

A: No. The fee structure of \$25 per breed remains the same. If, however, a breed application is not granted, the fee paid will be a credit for the next application, if any.

Q: Is there any appeal process for an applicant?

A: Yes. If the Department and Applicant cannot agree on any portion of the application, the applicant can immediately appeal to the Appeals Committee of the Board. There is a



\$50 fee for such an appeal. An appeal of any one breed application will not affect or suspend an application for any other breed. No breed granted shall be removed because of an appeal of another breed application. It is anticipated that the appeal process, while quick, will not be often used since the criteria for Qualifying Components are objective and clear.

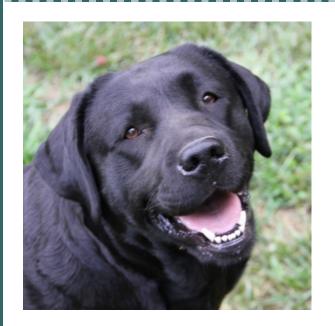
For more info click on these links:

<u>Judging Approval Process Proposal</u> <u>Sample – Education Component Matrix</u>

Please <u>click here</u> to provide your comments or feedback on this proposal.



# **Lachlan Labradors**



CH Nipntuck Spent it on Fame "Penny" is expecting puppies Dec 1st by GCH Epoch's Moccasin Joe "Grizz"

CH Lachlan's Wild Flower
"Daisy"
is expecting puppies Dec 10<sup>th</sup> by
GCH Tabatha's Sunfest Donnybrooke

Tom O'Hern

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